Rural Recreation Scheme.

* 131 *Q.*—SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the amount allotted for rural recreation in connection with Prohibition has been spent for that purpose or not; and

(*b*) if that was spent for the above purpose, where and if not, why?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" (*a*) The member apparently refers to the allotment under the Budget head '42. Co-operation—b. Superintendence—D. Rural Recreation Scheme'. The expenditure on ameliorative activities connected with Prohibition is debited to this head. Originally a good part of the ameliorative work connected with Prohibition was devoted to the promotion of counter attraction to drink in the form of recreation and entertainments. But now the policy of the Government is to restrict ameliorative work to constructive activities such as organization of jaggery manufacturing societies and other types of societies for ex-tappers, finding alternative employment for them, etc.

" (*b*) The amount was spent throughout the State."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" How much money is being spent for rural recreation ?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" I want notice Sir."

SRI V. CHIDANANDAM :—" Does the Hon. Minister feel that the recreation department should still continue ?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Yes, Sir, until the policy of the Government is changed."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" May I know why the Rural Recreation Scheme is not enforced in the Tanjore district ?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" I think, the ameliorative scheme is intended for the whole of this State. If the hon. Member brings to my notice that it is not enforced in the Tanjore district, the matter will be looked into."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Have these Prohibition Ministers—past or present—participated in anyone of the Rural Recreation Schemes please ?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Yes, Sir, sometime back in Coimbatore."

Fishery research stations.

* 132 *Q.*—SRI P. V. R. GAJAPATHI RAJU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many fresh water fishery research stations are maintained by the Government in this State;